Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1 Individual Application Summary

Project Name [Number]	Excelsior Branch Library Renovation 1021	Current Square Footage	8,322	
Applicant Applicant	San Francisco, City & County of	Project Square Footage	8,556	
Operating Library Jurisdiction	San Francisco Public Library	Service Area Population:	53,612	
Project Type	Remodel & Expansion			
Project Priority	2nd	Anticipated Construction Start Date:	9/1/2003	
Joint Use Type	N/A			
Multipurpose?	NO	Total Project Amount		\$4,319,000
Leased Site:	NO	State Grant Amount		\$2,683,850

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
Urban/Rural:		[see map]
Population Growth:		20%
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		Yes
Age and Condition of Existing Library:	Poor Condition (= Very Good)	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	Outstanding	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate technology:	Outstanding	
Appropriateness of Proposed Site:	Very Good	
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Overall Rating: Very Good

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 20.4%

Age and Condition of Existing Facility The existing library was built in 1967 and has not been remodeled. Major deficiencies of the current facility: non-compliance with seismic and ADA codes; inadequate lighting; inadequate technology infrastructure. While the overall size is approximately right, the spaces and configuration of spaces is not what is needed in today's public library. The feasibility study indicates that it is more cost effective to renovate the current facility than to build a new one.

Needs of Residents/Response of Proposed Project to Needs The needs assessment was based upon input from a broad range of community groups. Even though it is a remodeling/expansion project, a full needs assessment was done for the project. Excellent needs assessment methodology and identification of agencies, including public and private schools. Recognizing the need to serve K-12, they are adding the position of Young Adult Librarian. Services are well planned and responsive to identified needs, including those of the Chinese and Spanish population.

The plan of service follows the information determined by the needs assessment, providing a teen area and increased Spanish and Chinese language collections. Goals, objectives, and service indicators are all well defined. The plan responds to all needs of service area residents.

Projects01.xls 1021 11/26/02

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The building program follows logically from the plan of service. Spaces are described well, including spatial relationships and activities to be performed.

The conceptual plans adequately incorporate the requirements of the building program.

Joint use agreement: N/A

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology Technology has been integrated into the plan of service primarily in the areas of training, Web-based homework assistance, self-check out machines, and increasing awareness of the library's electronic resources. The new integrated automated library system, which will be in place by the time the renovated branch opens, will enable access in languages other than English, which is needed by this community. While not a part of this project, it shows the commitment to the use of technology to improve the delivery of library services. Technology solutions include video conferencing capabilities; 24/7 reference services; self-checkout; public workstations throughout library in critical areas; plans for computer classes; and a state of the art AV system. Self-checkout machines will have Spanish, Chinese, and English screens in response to the ethnic makeup of community. Plans are for online library card registration and fines payment.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The current site meets all the site selection criteria. It is central to the neighborhood and adjacent to the business district and near boys' and girls' clubs and a senior center. There is no on-site parking, but provides some parking within 500' of the entrance. However, the use of public transit is higher than most areas. There are 15 public transit stops within 1/4 mile of the library.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.

Projects01.xls 1021 11/26/02